

INCOMING TELEGRAM

Department of State

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Control: 5408

Rec'd: MARCH 9, 1959

5:41 P.M.

• Action

FROM:PARIS

EUR **FROM:PARIS**
Info
RMR **TO: Secretary of State**

ss NO: 3261, MARCH 9, 9 P.M.

SENT DEPARTMENT 3261, REPEATED INFORMATION BONN 336, LONDON 714,
BERLIN 98. MOSCOW 198.

INR

PASS DEFENSE

FROM HILLENBRAND

1. AT FIRST FOUR POWER WORKING GROUP MEETING FRENCH CHAIRMAN URGED IMPORTANCE OF PREVENTING LEAKS AND ALL AGREED DELEGATIONS SHOULD REFRAIN FROM DISCUSSING WORKING GROUP DELIBERATIONS WITH PRESS.

2. DISCUSSION OF ORGANIZATION WORK PROGRAM REVEALED BRITISH UNDER INSTRUCTIONS TO POSTPONE DISCUSSION OF REPLY SOVIET NOTE MARCH 2 AT LEAST UNTIL AFTER MACMILLAN VISITED BONN. ALSO, GERMANS UNDER INSTRUCTIONS TO REFRAIN AT THIS POINT FROM TAKING ANY SUBSTANTIVE POSITIONS ON WESTERN POSITION, PARTICULARLY IN SECURITY AREA. GERMANS PREPARED TO TABLE PAPERS ON ASPECTS OF REUNIFICATION, APPARENTLY PLEBISCITE AND OUTLINES OF MEISSNER-FECHTER PLAN. ALSO READY TABLE WORKING LEVEL DRAFT REPLY SOVIET NOTE FOR DISCUSSION. TEXT BEING SENT SEPARATELY.

3. FRENCH ARGUED FOR PREPARATION OF REPORT COUCHED IN VERY GENERAL TERMS WHICH WOULD NOT ATTEMPT TO DEVELOP AGREED WESTERN POSITION BUT WOULD SET OUT ALTERNATIVE APPROACHES FOR CONSIDERATION OF MINISTERS. THIS IN LINE WITH LALOY STATEMENT TO HILLENBRAND EARLIER IN DAY WHICH SUGGESTED FRENCH NOT PREPARED TO COME TO GRIPS WITH PROBLEMS IN SPECIFIC TERMS AT THIS LEVEL.

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By DCT NARA, Date 1-5-82

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-2- 3261, MARCH 9, 9 P.M., FROM PARIS

4. UNITED STATES STRESSED IMPORTANCE OF MAKING REPORT TO NAC ON WEDNESDAY TO COUNTERACT DISSACTIONS AS WELL AS ILLUSIONS ON PART SOME NATO COUNTRIES. AGREED TO TABLE OPENING SECTIONS (PARAS 1 THROUGH 6) ELEMENTS WESTERN POSITION PAPER FOR DISCUSSION IN WORKING GROUP TOMORROW TO PROVIDE POSSIBLE BASIS OF REPORT TO NAC.

5. AFTER CONSIDERABLE DISCUSSION OVER LOGGERHEADS SITUATION CREATED BY CONFLICTING BRITISH-GERMAN INSTRUCTIONS AGREED WORKING GROUP SHOULD COMMENCE WORK BY REVIEWING OPENING SECTIONS UNITED STATES PAPER, DISCUSSING INFORMALLY PAPERS SUBMITTED NAC BY BELGIUM AND CANADA AND EXCHANGING VIEWS ON QUESTIONNAIRE. GERMANS COMPLAINED THEY UNPREPARED FOR DISCUSSION OF QUESTIONNAIRE.

6. SEEMS CLEAR FROM TODAY'S MEETING WORKING GROUP NOT GOING TO MAKE MUCH PROGRESS UNLESS IT CAN FOCUS FAIRLY SOON ON ARTICULATED SUBSTANTIVE POSITION. WE HOPE SUBMISSION FIRST TWO SECTIONS OUR PAPER WILL GIVE SOME IMPETUS BUT BELIEVE IT IMPORTANT TO PROVIDE COMPLETE DRAFT PAPER AS SOON AS POSSIBLE.

7. ALSO CLEAR THAT GERMANS AND TO SOME EXTENT FRENCH EXPECTED TO COORDINATE DRAFT OF REPLY TO SOVIET NOTE OF MARCH 2 IN WORKING GROUP. WE SAID WE WERE PROCEEDING ON ASSUMPTION SUCH COORDINATION WOULD TAKE PLACE WASHINGTON BUT COULD RAISE QUESTION WITH DEPARTMENT IF OTHERS ALL WANTED TO DISCUSS PARIS. BRITISH, OF COURSE, DO NOT WANT TO DISCUSS REPLY ANY PLACE AT THIS TIME.

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